

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant's undersigned representative received a telephone call from the Examiner on November 12, 2003 regarding the present application. The Examiner indicated that he considered all of the pending claims to be allowable with the exception of claims 12 and 27, which he considered "overly broad." On November 14, 2003, Applicant's representative contacted the Examiner to inform him that the Applicant did not wish to cancel claims 12 and 27 at that time, and to request a written rejection of these claims. In the Office Action, which was issued by the Examiner that same day (see page 20), all of the pending claims were rejected. Applicant is puzzled by this course of events and fails to understand why claims that were indicated as allowable by the Examiner have now been rejected, particularly when there is no new prior art in the record. Applicant therefore respectfully requests clarification of this point by the Examiner.

Turning to the rejection, claims 1-9, 11, 16-24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,097,733 to Basu et al. (hereinafter "Basu") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,181,711 to Zhang et al. (hereinafter "Zhang"), in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,414,455 to Hooper et al. (hereinafter "Hooper"), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,945 to Shaw (hereinafter "Shaw"). Claims 13-15 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Basu in view of Zang and in further view of Shaw. For the following reasons, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 1, 11, 13-16, 26 and 28-30, neither Basu nor Zhang nor Hooper nor Shaw teaches editing a display characteristic of image information into image information suitable for a mobile communication with a mobile terminal by *thinning the image*

information, said display characteristic being *at least one of a screen size of the image information and a color depth of the image information*, as required. The Examiner cites a passage in Shaw teaching the video signal conversion from YUV to RGB (analog or VGA) taught by Shaw (col. 8, lines 46-49) as the “thinning the image information” required by the claims. However, Shaw does not teach or suggest that this conversion performs any *thinning* of the image information, such that the quantity of image information is reduced, as in the presently claimed invention. The signal conversion taught by Shaw merely involves changing the way the image information is electrically represented. As will be appreciated by one of skill in the art, an RGB signal splits the image into Red, Green and Blue components, whereas a YUV signal splits the image into Luminance (Y), Red minus Luminance (U), and Blue minus Luminance (V) components. Thus, after performing the conversion taught by Shaw, the image information still represents the same image, not thinned but merely converted to a different format. In the passage repeatedly cited by the Examiner as a teaching of thinning image information, Shaw states that a result of the YUV to RGB conversion could be to generate an 8 bit VGA color image through color mapping (col. 8, lines 46-49). Applicant notes that the original CIF formulated YUV signal also has an 8 bit color depth prior to its conversion to RGB (Col. 6, lines 5-6).

Although, as pointed out by the Examiner, Shaw teaches various transformations of the image data for display by different devices, nowhere in its specification does Shaw teach that these transformations perform thinning. The present claims not only require the editing of a display characteristic of the image information, but that the editing must include a thinning operation. Therefore, absent some teaching of thinning or downsampling image information to make it suitable for a mobile terminal, as required by the claims, every limitation of the

claims is not taught or suggested by the cited references individually or by any combination thereof. Thus, claims 1, 11, 13-16, 26 and 28-30 and their respective dependent claims 2-9 and 17-24 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Further, regarding claims 1, 11, 13-16, 26 and 28-30, for the following reasons, reasons stated below with regard to claims 12 and 27, it is respectfully submitted that there is no motivation or suggestion in the prior art to apply the teachings of Shaw to a mobile communications network, such as the one taught in Basu. The same can be said with regard to applying the teachings of Zhang and Hooper to the system of Basu. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the pertinent art, at the time the present invention was made, would not have found any suggestion in the prior art to combine the teachings of Basu, Zhang, Hooper and Shaw, as required to sustain the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Thus, since a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established, claims 1, 11, 13-16, 26 and 28-30 and their respective dependent claims 2-9 and 17-24 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Claims 12 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Shaw. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 12 and 27, Shaw does not teach or suggest “a *common image format*, which can be handled commonly in communication with the mobile network,” as required. Examiner states that Shaw suggests such a modification, citing col. 3, lines 48-50, 52-54, and that the modification would provide a benefit, citing col. 1, lines 49-53 (Paper no. 11, para. 36). However, these passages of Shaw only teach and suggest the design of a system that can handle multiple media formats, such as H.261, MPEG, CD audio, voice grade

audio, FM audio, and the like, by various conventional stationary multimedia appliances, including a telephone, personal computer or workstation, video screen and VCR. Moreover, Shaw teaches a system for connecting various incompatible multimedia devices to allow exchange of media objects between them (see Figs. 1-2 and col. 2 line 64 to col. 3, line 32). By its very nature, such a system requires that images and other media objects be converted to *various output formats* in order to be compatible with the various devices. By contrast, the present claims require that image information be converted to a single *common format*. Since every limitation of the claims is not taught or suggested by Shaw, claims 12 and 27 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that there is no motivation or suggestion in the prior art to apply the teachings of Shaw to the present invention. Shaw does not relate to mobile terminals, as presently claimed. As noted above, Shaw teaches a multimedia communications system for sharing and displaying multimedia content among conventional multimedia devices, including personal computers, VCRs and video displays. There are inherent limitations to mobile terminals, including limited display capabilities and bandwidth limitations, that make it impractical to take conventional multimedia technology and simply apply it to mobile terminals in a mobile network. Only through selective hindsight reconstruction would one be motivated to apply such teachings to mobile terminals in a mobile network. At the time of the present invention, one of ordinary skill in the art in seeking improvements for mobile terminals in a mobile network would not have looked to the teachings of Shaw, since these teachings as a whole require technological capabilities that mobile terminals did not possess. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of

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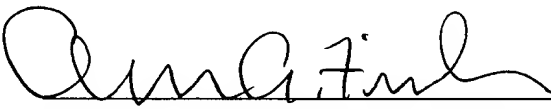
obviousness has not been established for the purpose of supporting a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 32032.

Respectfully submitted,

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